

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TOKYO 06751 180853Z
ACTION STR-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FRB-03 H-01 INR-10
INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 CTME-00
AID-05 SS-15 ITC-01 TRSE-00 ICA-11 SP-02 SOE-02
OMB-01 DOE-15 AGR-01 /137 W
-----054530 180935Z /21

P 180843Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7178
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY
USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 06751

USMTN
USEEC
DEPARTMENT ALSO PASS STR ELECTRONICALLY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EEC, ETRD, MTN, JA
SUBJECT: STRAUSS-USHIBA STATEMENT (SUS) FOLLOW-UP,
. GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT
REF: TOKYO 6181

1. JAPAN IS PLANNING A MAJOR SHIFT IN ITS POLICIES
ON GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT, A WORKING LEVEL MOFA
OFFICIAL TOLD AN EMBASSY OFFICER INFORMALLY APRIL 17.
HE SAID THE PRIME MINISTER ORDERED THE 22 PRIMARY
GOVERNMENT MINISTRIES AND AGENCIES TO HOLD
MEETINGS, BEGINNING LATER THIS WEEK, AND REACH
A CONSENSUS CONCERNING GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT THAT
COULD BE PRESENTED BY THE PRIME MINISTER IN
WASHINGTON NEXT MONTH. THE POLICY SHIFT, HE
SAID, CAME AS A RESULT OF MINISTER USHIBA'S REPORTS
TO THE PRIME MINISTER FOLLOWING DISCUSSIONS HELD
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IN EUROPE WITH U.S. AND EC OFFICIALS.
2. THE OFFICIAL SAID THAT LOW LEVEL PRELIMINARY
MEETINGS BETWEEN GOJ AGENCIES WOULD BE STARTED
THIS WEEK WITH HIGHER LEVEL MEETINGS SCHEDULED
TO FOLLOW ONCE A BASIC PROCUREMENT PACKAGE HAD
BEEN AGREED UPON. THE FOREIGN MINISTRY GATT
DIVISION WILL COORDINATE THE PROGRAM HE SAID.

HE DECLINED TO SPECULATE ON THE PACKAGE SAYING
THAT EACH AGENCY HAS A VETO VOICE IN ITS DESIGN
AND HE COULD NOT PREDICT HOW IT WOULD TURN OUT.
3. COMMENT: PRIME MINISTER'S TRIP TO WASHINGTON
IS PROVIDING GROUNDS FOR MANY IN GOJ TO PUSH FOR
PROMPT ACTION BY GOJ DECISION-MAKING APPARATUS.
WHETHER OR NOT IT CAN PRODUCE SOMETHING DRAMATIC
BY MAY 3, IT IS HELPFUL INDICATOR OF A MOVE IN
THE RIGHT DIRECTION. END COMMENT.

MANSFIELD

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NNN

Message Attributes

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